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Movie Review

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Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1990

November 29 - December 5, 2000

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Trial resumes in Faison cop beating death

Cops face 10 years in prison and \$250,000 fine

By Wayne Parry
Associated Press Writer

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Inconsistencies in the accounts of two witnesses to the beating of a Earl Faison who died in police custody have

heartened defense lawyers for the five Orange police officers charged in the case, and worried supporters of the victim's family. The officers are accused of federal civil rights violations in connection with the death of Earl Faison, 27, who they arrested thinking he was the person who had killed a fellow officer, Joyce Carnegie.

Two police officers, Keith Jackson and Anthony Tortorella, have testified that another officer, Brian Smith, sprayed pepper spray into the East Orange man's face as he lay handcuffed on a stairwell floor of police headquarters following his arrest on April 11, 1999.

One inconsistency which defense lawyers jumped on was Tortorella's testimony that he did not see one of the officers charged, Tyrone Payton, going through Faison's pockets, removing money and shouting, "Someone give this to Joyce's mother," as other witnesses had said.

Michael Chertoff, a former U.S. attorney representing one of the officers, told the jury during opening statements that physical evidence will prove that pepper spray was not applied to Faison.

"That is going to exonerate these defendants," Chertoff said.

He said the media-whipped climate following the April 4, 1999, killing Carnegie created a "witch hunt" for scapegoats after Faison's death three days later.

"It's an innocent death. It's nobody's fault," said Chertoff,

who represents retired Lt. Thomas Smith. "But you don't remedy a tragedy with an injustice."

DeLacy Davis, president of Black Cops Against Police Brutality, is also worried about injustice.

"We're hopeful there will be justice, but I'm not counting on it," he said. "We've seen all around the country where the victim has been black or Latino and the verdict goes not only in the opposite direction of what the family had expected, but also in the opposite direction of what the evidence showed."

He said friends and relatives of Faison had expressed concern about discrepancies in witness accounts during the trial, and their eventual impact on the 12-member jury, which includes one black and one Hispanic.

Faison was one of four men detained in Carnegie's death in the frenzied days following her shooting, which led to additional criticism of the Essex County prosecutor, who was later ousted. Conell Woodson later confessed to the crime and is serving a life sentence.

A federal indictment was handed up in June 2000 against Smith, 37, of Caldwell, who retired last year; officers Paul Carpenter Jr., 36, of Orange; Andrew Garth, 31, of Bloomfield; Payton, 34, of Orange; and Brian Smith, 30, of Orange. The Smiths are brothers.

The active officers have been suspended without pay. All remain free on bond.

All five face a charge of conspiring to deprive Faison of his civil rights. Payton faces three counts of depriving Faison of civil rights, while each of the others face one count of depriving Faison of his civil rights. Each count carries up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The trial is expected to resume this week in federal court in Newark.



Photo by William Frazer

WISOMMM's African Ball honors communities best

See the story on page A-10

Significance of black women's vote ignored

WOMENSENSENEWS — Media tracking and reporting on the African-American women's vote as a major determinant in the national and many state and local races on Nov. 7, 2000, has been abysmal, in spite of hard evidence that African-American women provided the dramatic margin of victory in both the 1992 and the 1996 presidential elections.

Not only are there no easily available data showing how this important bloc voted, but also there has been virtually no inclusion of black women in news media's press-conduct statistics, either in charted data or in narrative examinations of voter participation. Only The New York Times' Portrait of American Politics, published Sunday, provided detailed national statistics on African-American women voters, but even that had scant demographic specifics.

Yet, the data that are available clearly indicate that many of this year's election winners owe their victories to the votes of blacks, particularly black women who are almost two-thirds of black voters.

Black Women Help Gore in Pennsylvania, Illinois, California, New York

In the presidential race in Pennsylvania,

white voters selected Texas Gov. George W. Bush over Vice-President Al Gore, by 50 percent to 48 percent. Yet, the savvy percent of blacks who voted gave 90 percent of their votes to candidate Gore, thus raising his vote harvest to a 51 percent winning majority. Approximately 5 percent of all the state's voters were black women.

(Estimates of black women's 2000 voter participation are projections of actual 1996 black women's voting by state, adjusted by 2000 Voters News Service's statewide exit polling of women voters and black voters.)

In Illinois, white voters nearly tied Bush (49 percent) and Gore (48 percent), only to have a Gore victory determined by a 14 percent black vote, 92 percent of which went to candidate Gore, pushing his statewide majority of 54 percent into the winner's column. An estimated 10 percent of the winning tally was from African-American women's votes.

In California, another state in which white voters gave candidate Bush 48 percent to candidate Gore's 47 percent, the 7 percent black vote joined with a 14 percent Hispanic vote to provide Gore with a 54 percent statewide victory over Bush. The black and Hispanic women's portion of that state's overall vote is estimated at eight percent.

New York State, consistently predicted as an even probability for Senatorial contenders Hillary Rodham Clinton and Rick A. Lazio, delivered an overwhelming victory to First Lady Rodham Clinton. The New York Times reported that "white women, a group made up mostly of Republicans and independents that resisted Mrs. Clinton until the end of the campaign, came to support her over Mr. Lazio by 50 percent to 47 percent."

Several other factors influencing the votes of white women were recited also. The media

have not so far revealed, however, the exit poll results reflecting Clinton's total black vote — and black women's vote — comparable to the white women's voting statistics printed in full detail. Projections based on New York State's black vote for Democratic candidate Gore, and upon the increase of Mrs. Clinton's final tally to a 12-point win over Lazio, indicate that over 90 percent of black women voted for winner Clinton.

Other states, including Michigan, Maryland, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Georgia and Missouri, show a similar pattern, with Bush defeating Gore by margins of one percent to a high of nine percent among white voters — only to have these margins reversed when the black vote is factored in.

Why Is Exit Polling Data on Black Voters So Scant, Late, Underused?

It is appalling, therefore, although not surprising, that exit polling data about African-American voters — women and men — are treated so indifferently. These data, showing black voter participation as a significant determinant of outcomes in a number of races, are totally unavailable to those outside the media organizations who own the data collected by the Voter News Service until later this month. Unfortunately, reporters having immediate access to these rich statistics have not found them to be consequential to their in-depth, post-election observations and analysis, thus implying, by omission, their irrelevance.

Adding to this indifference toward the details of black voter demographics and participation has been the equally dismissive attitude by the mass media and mainstream commentary about African-American per-

See BLACK WOMEN'S VOTE on page A-6

Senate asks Whitman for racial profiling records

By JOHN P. McALPIN
Associated Press Writer

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Gov. Christine Whitman's office is the latest target of a legislative committee's expanding investigation into the state police and charges of racial profiling.

A former federal prosecutor hired by the state Senate Judiciary Committee wants any records Whitman's office kept that deal with racial profiling, the committee's Republican chairman said Monday.

Earlier this month the committee broadened its inquiry to include the state's prosecution of two troopers after a judge dismissed criminal charges against the pair for a shooting on the New Jersey

Turnpike. The April 1998 traffic stop ended in gunfire and provoked the state's racial profiling controversy.

The committee wants all the paperwork detailing the attorney general's decision to indict troopers John Hogan and James Kenna. The two were cleared Oct. 31 when a judge said the state violated their rights. That ruling is under appeal.

Included in the committee's latest request are "all documents regarding communications" about those troopers between the attorney general's staff and Whitman's office, according to a letter from a committee lawyer.

Senate Democrats again Monday called for the power to subpoena witnesses, saying documents alone won't tell the

full story.

Legislators are expecting as many as 80,000 pages of records from the attorney general's office dating back to 1995. Attorney General John J. Farmer Jr. has said all of that information will be made public by Nov. 28.

Expanding the committee's probe to include Whitman and her staff was the next step, state Sen. William L. Gormley, R-Atlantic, said.

"If they have anything in or around the time under review, we want to see it. It's a logical extension and one we have been thinking of doing for some time," Gormley said.

Committee members have no specific documents in mind or any knowledge that

Whitman's staff maintained internal reports, memos or other records not included in the material Farmer will provide, Gormley said.

This new request by attorney Michael Chertoff, a former U.S. attorney, is basically the same made of Farmer, Gormley said.

"We're doing this in a thorough manner," Gormley said. "We don't want people to say we didn't ask."

Whitman's office had not received the letter late Monday afternoon, spokesman Pete McDonough said.

"We'll respond to it when we get the letter," McDonough said.

State Sen. John A. Lynch, D-Middlesex, asked Gormley again to request full subpoena powers for the com-

mittee.

"Documents can be helpful, but we need to be able to ask people what kinds of deals were made which were never put into writing. If people went to meetings and know certain things took place, but were not put into writing, we need to ask them about those events," Lynch said.

Once the committee reads the documents, witnesses will be called, Gormley said.

If witnesses refuse to answer, then he will ask for the power to compel them, the senator said.

"All we have said is if and when we need subpoena power, we will ask the full Senate for subpoena power," Gormley said.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 -
DECEMBER 25

CAPE MAY — Lamplighter Christmas Tours, from 7-9 p.m. For further information call (609) 884-5404.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

BERKELEY HEIGHTS — Union Catholic Regional High School Class of '84 have planned a reunion at Berkeley Plaza. For information, call (732) 499-7086.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30
THROUGH DECEMBER 14

CAPE MAY — A Victorian Tour and Tea Luncheon starting noon. For further information call (609) 884-5404 or 1-800-275-4278.

THROUGH WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

The State of New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services is offering monthly foster care and adoption parent training. For more information, call 1-800-NJ-FOSTER or 1-800-99-ADOPT.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

ATLANTIC CITY — Atlantic City Hosts A Variety Of November Trade Shows, Eastern Regional United States Sign Company's Sign World USA. For further information call 609-449-7126.

THROUGH THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 30

NEWARK — "Faces of the Ironbound: Newark 1937-1939" is a collection of almost two dozen photos by American photographer William Cotton at the Rutgers Newark Dana Library, 185 University Avenue in Newark. For more information, call (973) 353-5262.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

RARITAN CENTER — The Family Handyman Home Improvement Show, NJ Expo Center. For further information call 1-800-384-5157.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

CAPE MAY — The 27TH Annual Candlelight House Tours takes place from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. For further information call (609) 884-5404.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

LINCROFT — The Monmouth County Park System invites area residents of all ages to join in celebrating the holiday season at the annual "Holiday Happening". For further information call (732) 842-4000, ext. 4237 from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

JERSEY CITY — The Lee Hagan Africans Studies Center will hold a Kwanzaa Celebration, 12-2 p.m. For further information call (201) 200-3524.

THROUGH WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6

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LINCROFT — Monmouth County Park System to Host "Kids Can Crochet."

For further information call (732) 842-4000.

THROUGH THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

HOWELL — Monmouth County Park System Schedules "Kids Rock." For further information call (732) 842-4000, and for the hearing impaired call (732) 219-9484.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

MORRISTOWN — Teddy Bear Tea at The Morris Museum (A great opportunity for Holiday Photos) For further information call (973) 538-0454, ext. 239.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

NEWARK — Newark Public Library and IDT Corporation announce "IDT Reading Rewards" Program. For further information call (973) 733-7798.

ONGOING

NEWARK — Pools and musicians are invited every Wednesday night for poetry/jazz held at Waset Community, 271 South 9th St., at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call (973) 678-3221.

JERSEY CITY — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University, 32 College Street, will have free support groups this fall. Call for registration at (201) 200-3189.

MORRISTOWN — The Morris Museum is offering an after school drop-in art workshops on every Thursday through December 7 at 4-7 p.m. For more information, call (973) 538-0454, ext. 254.

Fax community calendar events to:

973-642-5444.

Send to: City News
Calendar,
111 Mulberry St.,
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E-mail to:
CityNews_news@ho
ttmail.com.

Send information at
least three weeks
prior to the event.

NJCU Council on Hispanic Affairs awards scholarships



The New Jersey City University Council on Hispanic Affairs (CHA) awarded scholarships to four University students at a recent campus ceremony. The NJCU students (from the left) Francisco J. Rodriguez of West New York, a sophomore majoring in music education and performance; Ashley Gonzalez of Elizabeth, a sophomore majoring in business management and minor in Spanish; Ralmei Guzman of Union City, a senior majoring in art; and Marie Guerrero of Jersey City, a junior majoring in geoscience and secondary education, were congratulated by Jose Lowe (Right), project counselor with NJCU's The Learning Communities Program and chair of CHA's Scholarship Committee.

Marie Utzinger honored with 'Woman of Achievement' award

On Nov. 21, Marie Utzinger was honored by the New Brunswick Chapter of the Business & Professional Women, Inc. as a "Woman of Achievement."

The Chapter proudly recognizes that since 1954, Utzinger has been actively involved in the BPW, having served as its president for two terms, 1977-59 and 1976-77.

She has also dedicated her services to the American Association of Retired Persons, having served as president of the New Brunswick Chapter for two terms from 1990-92 and 1998-2000. She also served as president of the League of Women Voters.

New Brunswick Area from 1969 to 1971 plus volunteered for Meals on Wheels and was treasurer for the Friends of the North Brunswick Senior Center. Utzinger was employed by Rutgers University as an administrative assistant at the College of Agriculture then as a research assistant for the Rutgers Bureau of Biological Research where she stayed until retirement. She has unselfishly volunteered her time and energy to community and civic organizations while being a role model for others. It is because of her commitment and dedication that the NBB&PW has chosen her as their Woman of Achievement.

James F. Spellman honored at 13th annual Nobel Awards

In 1983 James Spellman witnessed a woman being stabbed by an individual. Spellman and two other individuals grabbed the suspect and held him until police arrived. After this event, Spellman found out people were afraid to come to Penn Station, Newark and he wanted to do something about this tragic problem.

Spellman is a resident of Newark and licensed private detective. He is also president and CEO of Lions Security Service Inc.; executive board member of Noble; executive board of The 100 Black Men of NJ; on the Board of Directors and National Security Advisor for the 100 Black Men Of America, Inc., with 89 chapters.

He was honored at the 13th Annual Noble Awards Scholarship Dinner on Nov. 10 at the Newark Sheraton Airport Hotel by New Jersey State Police.

He has two daughters, Lauren Spellman Gonzalez and Julian Spellman and two grandchildren.

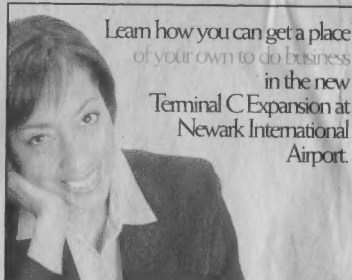
His father is the late Bishop of Newark, and Deputy Chief Chaplain for Newark Police. He has received awards in Law Enforcement, Federal, State and International. Also awarded locally and nationally for work in the community.

He has formed the Penn Station Committee of which he was the Chairman. The committee consisted of 20 members from major corporations in Newark, Newark Police, Amtrak, FBI, NJ Transit Police, Port Authority, Public Relations, Personnel, Hospital Representatives, Ironbound Board Associations, Retail Associations and Church Organizations. He has worked on such issues as crime, traffic problems, security and police in Penn Station and the surrounding areas and problems in the community. This committee started in 1983 and existed until 1986.

We made Penn Station of Newark a place that people feel safe and opened doors to the east coast that any citizen in Newark can be proud of.



Mayor Sharpe James of Newark, met with Samantha Tinkham of Berkeley Heights, N.J., on Nov. 15, to tape a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) in support of organ donor awareness. Samantha received her kidney transplant this past Sept. and Mayor James asks New Jersey residents to call the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network at 1-800-SHARE-NJ to learn more.



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Cochran, Robinson, other joined in push for reparations for slavery descendants

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — A group of civil rights leaders and class-action lawyers, which include Johnnie Cochran and civil rights leader Randall Robinson, have joined forces to fight for the compensation for Black descendants of slavery.

The project, Reparations Assessment Group, appears to be the most serious effort yet on behalf of African Americans.

"We will be seeking more than monetary compensation," Harvard law professor Charles Ogletree said. "We want a change in America. We want full recognition and a remedy of how slavery stigmatized, raped, murdered and exploited millions of Africans through no fault of their own."

The group will target those entities which have benefited from slave labor which could include federal government, state governments and private entities, according to Ogletree.

To develop their case, they will call on experts in education, politics, family development, health and economics to help state the long-term impact of slavery on today's society.

The group includes high-profile lawyers Cochran and Alexander J. Pires, Jr. who won a \$1 billion settlement for Black farmers who claimed discrimination by the Department of Agriculture; Richard Scruggs, who won the \$368.5 billion settlement for states against tobacco companies; Dennis C. Sweet III, who won a \$400 million settlement in the "phen-fen" diet drug case; and Willie E. Gray, who won a \$500 million judgment against Loewen Group Inc., the world's largest funeral home operator.

By Brett Martel
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal raid of former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke's home stemmed from allegations that Duke gambled away hundreds of thousands of dollars he raised for white supremacist causes, court documents said.

According to papers filed in U.S. District Court in New Orleans last Friday, Duke was considered a "high roller" at casinos in Mississippi, Louisiana and Nevada, betting money he solicited from supporters.

A search warrant affidavit

made public cited four confidential informants and numerous casino records. Informants told investigators that his office workers "would laugh at the often untruthful full exorcises Duke concocted in his mass mail-outs asking supporters for money," court papers said.

Agents from the FBI, Internal Revenue Service and the Postal Inspection Service raided Duke's home, carting off boxes of documents and a rifle.

Duke's associates said the 50-year-old one-time state legislator was in Russia, promoting a new book, and that they had not been able to reach him that Friday.

His new organization is the

National Organization For European American Rights, or NOPEAR. He launched it in January, declaring that whites in the United States face "massive discrimination" at the hands of minorities.

No charges have been filed against Duke, and NOPEAR spokesman Vince Edwards said the raid was a "fishing expedition."

Duke appeared before a federal grand jury in New Orleans in 1999 as news broke that Gov. Mike Foster had paid him more than \$150,000 for a list of his supporters, supposedly for use during the 1995 governor's race. Duke

had considered entering that race but ultimately stayed out of it.

The grand jury reportedly was seeking information on whether Duke paid taxes on the money.

Foster, a Republican, paid a \$200,000 fine to the state Board of Ethics in connection with the list.

It was not known if the raid was connected to the sale of the list.

Duke spent years on the political fringe, first as a Klan leader with neo-Nazi sympathies, then as founder of the National Association for the Advancement of White People, which decried integration.

He got elected to the state House in 1989 as a Republican and ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. Senate in 1990, pulling 44 percent of the vote against Democratic Sen. J. Bennett Johnston.

In the 1991 governor's race, he shocked the political establishment by making it into a runoff with former Gov. Edwin Edwards, who was trying for a comeback. Edwards won in a landslide.

Duke made a run for the presidency in Southern primaries in 1992 but was soundly defeated. He finished third in the 1999 race to replace Rep. Bob Livingston in Congress.

Family vows to continue civil rights activist Williams' legacy

Williams led the 50-mile march for equality over the Edmond-Pettis Bridge en route to the Alabama capital, Montgomery. Known as "Bloody Sunday,"

By Mashawn D. Simon
Atlanta Daily World

Moving from one realm of his life to another, civil rights activist Hosea Williams gave family, friends and hospital officials a "thumbs up," reassuring them that all would be well.

That was the day before he lost his battle with kidney cancer Thursday, November 16, 3:26 p.m., at Piedmont Hospital. Williams was 74 years old.

A public viewing was held Monday, Nov. 20, noon to 8 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College, 830 Westview Dr. The funeral was held Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Horizon Sanctuary of Ebenezer Baptist Church, 400 Auburn Ave.

Williams' body was transported by mule-drawn carriage from Ebenezer, past the state Capitol and Atlanta City Hall to Williams' alma mater Morris Brown College and his body was interred at Lincoln Cemetery.

Elizabeth Williams Omilami said her father's home-going service befits his legacy, replicating the same procession held for Martin Luther King Jr., Hosea's friend and comrade in the civil rights movement.

According to his son, Andre Williams, every family member was present when Hosea passed.

"We were there until the end, and I think that was a blessing," he said. "We all had a chance to say goodbye to him."

Joseph Lowery, president emeritus of SCLC, said Williams fought valiantly against death.

"Death has run into a battering ram named Hosea Williams," said Lowery. "Throughout his sickness he fought the good fight, just like in his life."

That fight continued right up until November 15, when his physician, Dr. Reginald Fowler, said Williams took a turn for the worse and became non-responsive.

Affectionately called "Uncle Hosea," Williams was born Hosea Lorenzo Williams in Attapulgus, Ga., January 3, 1926.

Growing up poor, Williams beat the odds of his humble beginnings, earning degrees from Morris Brown College and Atlanta University. In 1963, he was recruited to the staff of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1965, Williams, along with Rep. John Lewis, (D-Ga.), led the 50-mile march for equality over the Edmond-Pettis Bridge en route to the Alabama capital, Montgomery. Known as "Bloody Sunday," the two were severely beaten by Alabama troopers for advocating voting rights for blacks.

With Williams' memory as a guide, the nation will continue to march on the road to freedom, said President Bill Clinton.

"Hosea Williams dedicated his entire life

to making sure we never take a detour," Clinton said. "He helped all of us cross the bridge to a better and more just world."

That march led to signing of the Voting Rights Act by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965.

Congressman Lewis called Williams a man of faith, courage and hope.

"We have lost a patriot, a son of America, a citizen of the world," he said. "Williams spoke for the voiceless and will live on in our memory as one who made a difference."

Described as a "freedom fighter," a "beloved field general," an "architect of the new South," and a "fearless fighter for justice," Williams worked tirelessly and was dedicated to fighting society's wrongs.

In early August, he was presented Atlanta's first "Lifetime Service" award. A 3.3-mile stretch of Boulevard Drive - from Moreland Avenue to Candler Drive - was also named Hosea L. Williams Drive.

Everyone is grieving, but was determined to fulfill Williams' legacy, said his children, by continuing with his Feed the Hungry and Homeless program.

Established decades ago, Williams fed Atlanta's indigent populations each Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Now Williams' daughter, Elizabeth Omilami, will head the annual program.

"I do believe this year's Feed the Hungry will be the most successful one the city has ever had," said Andre.

Gov. Roy Barnes co-chaired the event. "Now is really not the time to be sad,

and I will not be," said Tyrone Brooks of the Georgia House of Representatives (District 54). "Instead, I am going to celebrate his life. Hosea would want us to be strong."

"It was Hosea who helped all of us involved in the struggle survive the killing of Martin Luther King, Jr.," he continued. "He made sure we understood that it was our job to continue on. That is what I plan to do, to remind others to celebrate Hosea's life and continue our fight."

"We are all sad, but we have a job to do," said his son Andre.

Flags were flown at half mast Nov. 17 at Atlanta City Hall in honor of Williams' service to humanity.

Survivors include three other daughters, Yolanda Williams-Favors of Decatur, Barbara Jean Emerson of Queens, N.Y., and Juanita Collier of Perry; and two other sons, Torrey Williams and Hiram Williams, both of Atlanta.

Williams also leaves to mourn two stepbrothers, John A. Wiggins and William Wiggins, both of Jacksonville; four step-sisters, Florence Johnson of Jacksonville, Eva Mae Anderson of St. Louis, Lottie Mae Hayes of Cleveland and Theresa Washington of Tampa; 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Anyone interested in making a donation to Hosea's Feed the Hungry and Homeless campaign can call 404-755-3353, or drop donations off at 1035 Donnelly Ave. Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 4672, Atlanta, Ga. 30302-4672.

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Hackensack, NJ 07601
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Thank you for your patience during a difficult time. We appreciate the effort of our dealers who took the time to expedite tire replacement and respond to customer concerns. And a very special thanks to the tire makers who stepped up production, making 6.5 million replacement tires available before many thought it was possible.

A Measure of Prevention

At Ford, we have a long history of safety innovations, which is why we've taken major steps to help prevent this sort of thing from ever happening again. One such step is the implementation of the new, Early Warning System, which will collect and analyze key tire performance data from multiple sources using a sophisticated computer database. By collecting, analyzing and sharing data with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, Ford, together with our tire suppliers, will now have an even greater role in the pursuit to recognize trends and identify tire safety problems earlier.

Still Need Tires? Call Us

Remember: We now have all the tires we need to replace the 6.5 million recalled Firestone tires. If you still need replacement tires, call **1-800-660-4719** or e-mail us at tireinquiry@ford.com. And for the most updated information on the recall, visit www.ford.com. The Firestone recall is almost complete, but that doesn't mean the Ford Motor Company is going to relax our vigilance. Rather, we'll continue to do everything we can to help prevent a similar situation from ever occurring again.

Ford Motor Company

Stanley joins full assembly honoring Dana Christmas for courageous actions

TRENTON — Assemblyman Craig A. Stanley today joined Assembly Speaker Jack Collins in presenting a ceremonial resolution to Dana Christmas — heroine of the fatal Seton Hall University fire that occurred on Jan. 19.

"Dana Christmas provided us a new definition for the word hero. She truly epitomizes the bravery and heroism that we have reason to be so grateful for during this Thanksgiving season," said Stanley (D- Essex). "She suffered burns over 60 percent of her body, and she put her life at risk to save fellow students during the Seton Hall fire."

Christmas, a Seton Hall senior and Paterson native, could have been satisfied with escaping the burning dormitory. Instead, she went door-to-door

down the smoky hall of Boland dormitory to wake up students. With her hair on fire and her skin burning, the student assistant continued to rescue the freshmen she considered her responsibility and her residents' friends. When she could no longer go on, Christmas collapsed outside her room, covered her face, and began to pray: "God I did all I can do. I am ready to go home to be with you."

"Thank God her life was spared, and Dana is here as a living testament to the best of the human spirit," said Stanley.

Christmas was a resident assistant on the third floor of Boland Hall, the university's freshman dorm. The criminal justice major's duties included overseeing the underclassman on her floor, running programs and decorating the hall.

Christmas was hospitalized for months following the fire and was one of the most seriously burned in the Jan. 19 fire that killed three students and injured 58 others.

"The recognition that we bring to Dana Christmas today is only a small token of the admiration and gratitude felt for her throughout the state of New Jersey," said Stanley. "She is literally the reason why countless lives were saved."

Suzuki violin method, which places emphasis on learning and listening to music at an early age — similar to a young child learning to speak for the first time, by repetition and by example. The method also involves parents by stressing the importance of their supportive role — by playing music at home and encouraging their children to practice their violins.

The four schools participating in the program are Ann Street, Elliott Street, Franklin and Harriet Tubman. Students are provided with violins by the district and parents/guardians have signed agreements to assist students in the care and handling of the instruments.

Participating students will also be invited to attend performances by the NISO at the Sony Performing Arts Center of free charge.

Music teachers from the four schools — Sonya Impelluso, Lawrence Liggins, Nicholas Straus and Rich Lipinski — recently met with the NISO instructors to plan the details of the program, which is funded for three years.

Newark schools partner with New Jersey Symphony for new violin program

NEWARK — A new violin program, in which members of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (NJSO) will train students in four of Newark's public schools is being launched this month. The program, titled NJSO Newark Early Strings Joining is funded by a \$37,000 grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

"Violinists from the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will provide direct instruction to our students twice a month in a whole-class setting," said William W. May, Newark Public Schools Director of Visual and Performing Arts.

NJSO Newark Early Strings Training is aimed at second-grade students and contains elements of the

Black Women's vote

Continued from page A-1

spectives on the election. Very few, if any, black pundits, and reportedly no black women, have appeared on major network television or radio to assess the impact of African-American voting on the African-American community or on national, state and local races.

Thus, almost no data about black voters from exit polls have been publicly introduced to explain a number of election outcomes which are remarkable or perplexing. For example, the defeat of Kentucky's black Democrat Eleanor Jordan, who challenged incumbent white Republican Congresswoman Ann Northup, has gone unanalyzed, although Jordan is the first-ever African-American candidate for national office from Kentucky. Moreover, Jordan, who was defeated by nine points, nonetheless won 44 percent of the vote in this

holy contested race which was surrounded by controversy involving the incumbent and other black churches.

The Senate victory of the late Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan is attributable in large part to African-American memories of defeated Sen. John Ashcroft's turncoat behavior during the failed Federal Court of Appeals nomination of African-American Missouri Chief Justice Ronnie White. Justice White, the first African-American to become the Chief Justice of the Missouri State Supreme Court, was denied Senate confirmation in an opposition fight fueled by Ashcroft and joined by Missouri's junior senator, Christopher "Kit" Bond, whom black Missouri voters deliberately and non-traditionally had supported in his defeat of the Democratic candidate in 1998.

Giving the gift of food

NEWARK, NJ — The Downtown Newark Restaurant & Hospitality Association (DNRHA) celebrated the gift of giving on Nov. 23, as local restaurants and volunteers deliver Thanksgiving Day dinners to two local agencies, the Covenant House and the Apostles' House in Downtown Newark.

This year's Thanksgiving Day dinner illustrates the DNRHA's support of the Newark community. The feast that the DNRHA set up at the agencies consists of turkey, sweet & mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, rice & cabbage, cranberry sauce to name a few. Volunteers of the DNRHA will be serving 65 dinners at the Covenant House and 35 dinners at the Apostles' House.

"We want to help as many teenagers and families as we can — and show that Newark's world-class restaurants are embracing this city," said Michael James, co-chair of the DNRHA.

Cheryl B. Walker, also co-chair of DNRHA added, "We are really grateful to all of our members and other participating organizations that have come together to give our community a wonderful holiday meal."

The mission of the DNRHA is to bring downtown restaurants and industry professionals together to generate awareness for the emerging Downtown Newark cuisine, while continuing to promote further growth and entrepreneurial development in the city.

Restaurants who have donated food and beverages to the Thanksgiving Day dinner include: Palate Pleasure, Maize, Theater Square Grill, Side-Bar & Grill, Renaissance Cafe, Taste Delight, Stella Alphee Restaurant, Commerce Food Court & Golden Broche Bakery Sweets, Florist, Hamilton Pub, DiGennaro's Ristrante, TopShelf, Arthur's Downtown, Euphoria Cafe, Starbucks and Park Avenue Club.

In addition, Connection-Newark a non-profit organization that houses the monthly DNRHA meetings provided additional volunteers and helped in the coordination of the event.

The Covenant House is the largest privately-funded child-care agency in the United States providing shelter and service to homeless and runaway youth, as well those "at risk" to becoming homeless. In addition to food, shelter, clothing and crisis care, Covenant House provides a variety of services to homeless youth including health care, education, vocational preparation, legal services, recreation, mother-child programs, additional living programs, street out-

reach and aftercare. The Apostles' House is a place that provides services to a number of homeless "at risk" families. Their goal is to improve the lives of their clients and their children by promoting self-sufficiency. The five components of their services include: emergency family shelters, additional housing, food pantries, family preservation programs and multi-generational transitional housing.

For more information on the DNRHA, please contact Michael James, Co-Chair at (973) 802-1065.

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For further information, please contact Joseph Foushee, Chief of Security, at (973) 430-2744.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is accepting proposals for an independent audit for the year ending September 30, 2000. If interested, please submit proposal by Wednesday, December 13, 2000 by 10:00 a.m. to the Housing Authority of the City of Salem, Attention: Ruth O. Gross, PHA, Executive Director, 205 Seventh Street, Salem, NJ 08079. Any questions, please call (908) 345-2200.

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African Ball adorns community with pride

On Oct. 27, several prominent and well-deserving community activists were honored at the 1st Annual African Ball Awards Dinner sponsored by WISOMMM, Inc.

Frederica Bey, the African Ball Chairperson and Executive Director of WISOMMM, in welcoming guests, wrote:

"On Oct. 16, 1995, over one million men traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the historic Million Man March, called together by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. Five years later, the spirit continues. Not just here in Newark, NJ through WISOMMM, but all over the nation. There is renewed sense of self, of community, of dedication to enhancing the lives of our brothers and sisters and showing each other the difference between living, and merely existing. We will always be grateful to Minister Farrakhan for making that call, and to all of you for answering."

The African Ball held at the Sheraton Hotel in Newark, was emceed by Sister Keri Muhammad. Guests entered the ballroom in regal style to the African percussions of Qasim Cleveland & Company. Guests enjoyed a Chicken Mediterranean entree and danced to the music of Yaa Lengi Ngeni and DJ Slim.

WISOMMM's First Annual African Ball and Awards Dinner honored Sisters Ida B. Well, Fannie Lou Hamer, Wynona Lipman, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune and many other "beautiful, warrior-spirited Ancestors."



All captions are from left right. 1) City College Prof. of African History Dr. Lennard Jeffries, Amina Baraka, Community Activist Awardee, Crump 2) Maurice Brown of Verizon accepting the award. 3) Raishah Myers, Abdul Rahim Myers, and Professor Daphne Benyard 4) Sy Henderson of Summit Bank accepting an award. 5) Hajjah Unmil-Kahir introduced by Safiyya Sharif 6) Mayor and State Senator Sharpe James and Dr. William Watley of St. James AME

Photos by William E. Frazier

Jerome is looking for a sign.

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